

THE
GENERAL
R E C E I P T
B O O K.



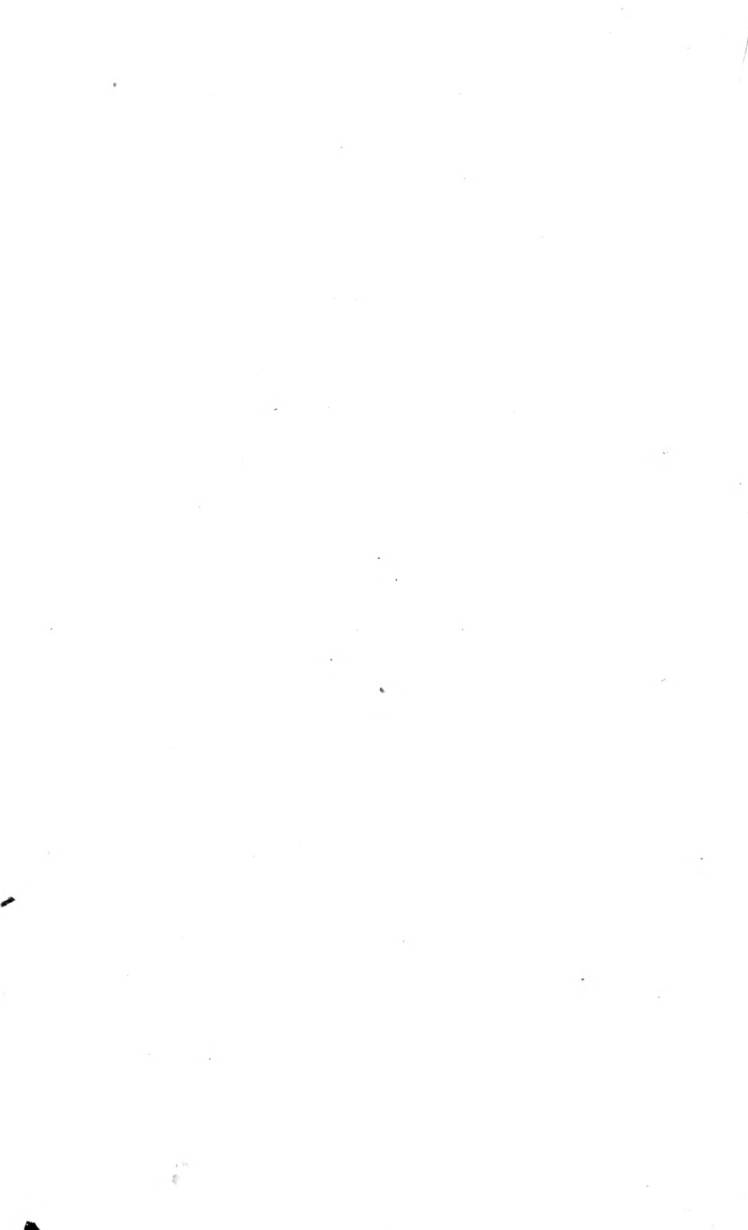
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SIXPENCE.

1853



THE
GENERAL
RECEIPT BOOK,

CONTAINING
AN EXTENSIVE COLLECTION
OF

Valuable Receipts,

CONNECTED WITH
DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

BY JAMES W. LAUGHTON.

THE
ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH EDITION.

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# THE GENERAL RECEIPT BOOK.

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*To make Spruce Beer.*—Take three pints of the essence of spruce (sold by the druggists), 18 gallons of water, 18 pounds of treacle, half a pint of good yeast, and a quarter of an ounce of isinglass cut small, and dissolved into a jelly, with a little stale cider or perry. First boil the water, then mix the treacle with it and put it in a cask; when nearly cold, mix up the spruce with a little of it, and put it into it, and let it work with the yeast; then stir it well up and let it work with the bung out for three or four days; after which, put in the finings, and stir it about, then put in the bung, and when it has stood ten days, bottle it. It should be drawn off into quart stone bottles, and be wired.

*To make Ginger Beer.*—Take two ounces of the best Jamaica ginger, and slice it very thin, and four scruples of citric acid. Put these ingredients into a clean earthen vessel, and pour on them two gallons of boiling soft water. Into another earthen vessel of the like description put two pounds of the best lump sugar, and drop on the sugar four or five drops of the essence of lemons. After the heat of the water poured on the ginger has subsided, pour the contents into the vessel containing the sugar and essence of lemons, while warm, add a table spoonful of yeast, and let the whole stand till next morning: then skim and bottle it, tying the corks tight down. Keep it three days in a dry cool place, and it will be fit for use. Thus made it will keep for a very long time, and prove of the first quality.

*Fine Ginger Cakes for Cold Weather.*—Break three eggs in a basin, beat them well, add half a pint of cream, which must also be beat with them, and put the whole into a saucepan over the fire, to be stirred till it gets warm; then add a pound of butter, half a pound of loaf sugar, two ounces and a half

of ginger, both powdered, carefully stirring the whole over a slow fire, just to melt all the butter; pour it on two pounds of flour, and form it all into a good paste; roll it, or break it into pieces, as you think proper, and bake it.

*To make the celebrated French Polish for Furniture.*—If the article to be polished has been previously waxed, it must be cleaned off with glass paper. To one pint of spirits of wine, add two ounces of gum shellac, and half an ounce of gum sandrach; place the whole over a gentle fire, frequently agitating it till the gums are dissolved. Then make a roller of list, put a little of the mixture upon it, and cover that with a soft linen rag, which must be slightly touched with cold-drawn linseed oil. Rub them into the wood in a circular direction, covering only a small space at a time, till the pores of the wood are filled up. After this, rub in, in the same manner, spirits of wine, with a small portion of the polish added to it, and the effect will be complete.

*To extract Oil from Wood or Stone.*—Take one pound of pearlash, half a pound of fresh burnt lime, and a gallon of boiling water; dissolve the pearlash in two pints of the water, and add the remainder of the water to the lime; mix the hot liquors together, and then set the mixture aside in a covered vessel, and when it is cold let it be strained through a cotton bag, and preserve it for use in well corked bottles.

*To give a fine Colour to Mahogany.*—Into a pint of cold-drawn linseed oil put one ounce of alkanet root, and one ounce of rose pink, in an earthen vessel; let it remain all night; then stirring it well, rub some of it over the tables with a linen rag: when it has lain some time, rub it with a linen cloth.

*To repair Metal Boilers.*—Mix pounded quick lime with ox blood, and it will make a strong cement

for repairing leaks in copper boilers or other vessels. It must be applied fresh made, as it soon gets so hard as to be unfit for use.

*To clean Cast Iron, and Black Hearths.*—Mix black lead and white of eggs, well beaten together; dip a painter's brush and wet it all over, then rub it bright with a hard brush.

*To take the black off the bright bars of Polished Stoves in a few minutes.*—Rub them well with the following mixture on a bit of broad cloth: take soft soap mixed to a good consistency with emery.

*To clean Tin Covers.*—Get the finest whiting, which is only sold in large cakes, the small being mixed with sand: mix a little of it powdered with the least drop of sweet oil, and rub them well, and then wipe them clean, and dust some dry whiting through a muslin sieve, rubbing them bright with dry leather. The last is to prevent rust.

*To clean Silver Plate.*—Dissolve alum in a strong ley, scum it carefully, and stir it up with soft soap, and wash your silver with it, using a linen rag.

*To clean Gold and restore its Lustre.*—Dissolve some sal-ammoniac in urine, boil your soiled gold therein, and it will become clean and brilliant.

*To take Spots, infallibly, out of Linen.*—Take a pound of chloride of lime, and two gallons of warm water; stir them together for one hour, and immerse the linen till the spots are removed, which will be in a few minutes; then wash the linen in repeated quantities of clean water immediately, and dry it.

*To take Ironmould or Rust out of Linen.*—Take powdered salt of sorrel, or oxalic acid, and put it on the place wetted with hot water; and repeat it till the ironmould is removed.

*How to take Spots or Stains out of Silk or Velvet.*

—Take soap-wort (an herb of that name), bruise it, and strain out the juice ; add a little black soap, mix them well to a moderate thickness ; rub over the stained or spotted place, wash it out with warm water, and allow it to dry ; do it again twice or thrice, and it will effect your desire.

*To make Wash Balls.*—Shave thin two pounds of new white soap to a tea-cup full of rose water ; then pour as much boiling water on as will soften it ; put into a brass pan a pint of sweet oil, four penny worth of the oil of almonds, half a pound of spermaceti, and set it all over the fire, till it is dissolved ; then add the soap, and half an ounce of camphor that has been reduced to powder, by rubbing it in a mortar with a few drops of spirits of wine, or lavender water, or any other scent ; boil it ten minutes, then pour it into a bason, and stir it till it is quite thick enough to roll up into hard balls, which must then be done as soon as possible, that the flavor may not fly off.

*Harness Makers' Jet.*—Take a dram of indigo, in powder, a quarter of an ounce of isinglass, quarter of an ounce of soft soap, four ounces of glue, one pennyworth of logwood raspings, a quart of vinegar, and a small quantity of green vitriol ; boil the whole together over a slow fire till reduced to a pint ; a small quantity is then to be taken on a sponge and thinly applied to harness, boots or shoes, taking care they are previously well brushed. This composition saves much trouble to coachmen and grooms.

*A cheap Shoe Blacking.*—Take four ounces of ivory black, three ounces of the coarsest sugar, an ounce of sweet oil, and a pint of small beer, with half an ounce of oil of vitriol ; mix them gradually, cold.



*To make Boots and Shoes Waterproof.* — Mix equal parts of mutton fat, bees'-wax, and sweet oil together, in a small gallipot, and heat them over the fire till melted ; then, after the mixture is cooled a little, apply it to the shoes plentifully, particularly about the welt and seams, and that will render them completely waterproof.

*To clean Boot Tops.*—Take an ounce of oxalic acid, and a pint of rain or other water ; shake them together until dissolved, when it is ready for use.

*To cement broken China, Glass, or Earthenware.* —Take a piece of flint glass, and beat it to a fine powder, and grind it well with the white of an egg, and it will join china without reviting, so that no art can break it again in the same place. You are to observe, the composition must be ground very fine on a painter's stone.

*To make genuine Windsor Soap.*—To make this famous soap for washing the hands, shaving, &c., nothing more is necessary, than to slice the best white soap as thin as possible, melt it in a stew-pan over a slow fire, scent it well with oil of caraway, and then pour it into a mould or frame made for that purpose, or a small drawer, adapted in size and form to the quantity. When it has stood three or four days in a dry situation, cut it into square pieces, and it is ready for use. By this simple mode, substituting any more favorite scent for that of caraway, all persons may suit themselves with a good perfumed soap at a trifling expense. Shaving boxes may be at once filled with the melted soap, instead of the mould.

*To make a fine hard Sealing Wax of all Colours.*

RED.

'Take one pound of bees'-wax, three ounces of fine turpentine, and one ounce of resin, finely pow-

dered; when they are well melted, and the dross taken off, put in it some red lead or vermilion, and stir them together till they are well incorporated; and you may, when it grows a little cool, make it up into what form you please.

#### GREEN.

It is made after the same manner, and in the same proportions as the fine red, by mixing with the ingredients verdigris instead of vermilion.

#### BLUE.

It is also made after the same manner, using blue smalt, or ultramarine.

#### PURPLE.

This is made after the same manner, by putting in vermilion mixed with ivory black, or lamp black.

#### YELLOW.

This is done as the rest, with fine ground auripigmentum, or yellow masticot.

*British Herb Tobacco*, for nervous head-ache, &c. Take of dried coltsfoot leaves 16 oz., dried hyssop, 8 oz., dried spearmint 4 oz., dried lavender flowers 2 oz., and of dried rose leaves 6 oz.; cut them very small, and mix them.

*To dye Silk a beautiful Purple.*—To each pound of silk, take an ounce of alum, and a gallon of water, dissolving the alum therein over a gentle fire. Then put in the silk, and let it continue there about four hours; then take lake and indigo, each a quarter of a pound, and a quart of urine; then a small handful of cochineal, beat them up into a dye, and dip your silks, fine stuffs, or cotton, into it as usual.

*A good Green.*—To twelve pounds of silk boil a pound of fustic, four ounces of turmeric, and one ounce of common alum, together; when boiled, mix a little indigo; then put in your goods, boil them well, and you will have a good green on woollen or silk. For a dark colour, use as much more indigo liquor, or fustic, as you consider necessary.

*A fine Buff Colour.*—Let the twist or yarn be boiled in pure water, to cleanse it; then wring it, run it through a diluted solution of iron in the vegetable acid, what painters call iron liquor; wring, and run it through a solution of starch and water; then wring it once more, and dry, wind, warp, and weave it for use. The same answers for dresses, or cotton already wove.

*French Maroon on Silk.*—To twelve pounds of silk, take one pound and a half of cudbear, boil it well; when boiled put in the silk for ten minutes, and then take it out. For a garnet colour, boil in the same liquor two pounds of common salt, put in your goods, and let them boil ten minutes, first adding cream of tartar.

*To varnish Drawings, Paintings, &c.*—Take some clear parchment cuttings, boil them in water, in a clean glazed pipkin, till they produce a very clear size; strain it and keep it for use. Give your work two coats of the above size, passing quickly over the work, not to disturb the colors; when dry, proceed with your varnish.

*A Cure for the Head-Ache.*—Cephalic snuff often removes this afflicting pain. When it arises from indigestion, an aperient draught will have a good effect. If occasioned by an heated atmosphere, a walk in the open air, or bathing the head in cold water, will often remove it.

*Ointment for Burns.*—Take four ounces of fresh lard, and four ounces of Goulard's Extract; beat them into an ointment, and apply it, thickly spread on lint, to the burn, twice daily.

*Bleeding at the Nose.*—A nettle leaf put upon the tongue, and then pressed against the roof of the mouth, is sometimes efficacious in stopping bleeding at the nose; or a large key placed against the naked back

*Corns.*—The following plasters will always give relief, and frequently remove them :

1. One ounce of Venice turpentine, the yolks of two eggs, two drachms of mercurial plaster, half an ounce of yellow wax ; the turpentine and wax must be melted together, and the other ingredients mixed when fluid.

2. Take equal quantities of roasted onion and soft soap ; beat them up together, and apply them as a poultice ; this application will instantly appease the pain of the corn.

3 Take one drachm of finely powdered verdigris, half a drachm of finely powdered camphor, and one ounce and a half of plaster of galbanum. Melt the plaster in a gallipot over a gentle fire, and stir in the powders until cold. To be spread on thin leather or linen.

*Cure for the Tooth Ache.*—The tooth-ache will be relieved in a moment by a few drops of camphor and laudanum dropped on a piece of lint, and put into the hollow of the tooth ; but this relief, though certain, is only temporary, for if the tooth be decayed, it must, if possible, be extracted.

*For a Cough.*—Mix vinegar and treacle in equal quantities, and let a tea-spoonful be taken occasionally, when the cough is troublesome.

*Gargle for a Sore Throat.*—Take a handful of red sage leaves, simmer them two minutes in a third of a pint of water, strain the liquor off when cold, add an equal quantity of vinegar, and sweeten it with honey. Or, dried black currant leaves, simmered for three or four minutes in a small quantity of vinegar, which apply, as a gargle, to the throat as hot as possible. These receipts are best for general purposes, and may be used with perfect safety, and generally with the happiest effects.

*To kill Cockroaches.*—Give them the root of black hellibore, which grows in marshes, and may be had from country people; strew it over the floor at night, and next morning you will find all the family of cockroaches dead or dying from having eaten of it, which they will do with much avidity. Or, mix one pound of treacle and two quarts of water well together, then put it into basins half full; place the vessels with pieces of wood resting on their edges, that they may crawl up into the basins at night, and in the morning the havoc will be seen.

*For destroying Rats.*—Cut dried sponge into small pieces, and fry or dip it in honey; it will distend their intestines; the addition of a little oil of rhodium will tempt them to eat it. Birdlime laid in their haunts will stick to their fur, and cause them to tear themselves in pieces to get rid of it. If a live rat was caught, and well anointed with tar and train oil, and afterwards set at liberty, the offensive smell would cause him to traverse all the holes of his companions with the most distressing anxiety, and cause them all to disappear.

*To Sweeten Meat, Fish, &c. that is tainted.*—When meat, fish, &c. from intense heat, or long keeping, are likely to pass into a state of corruption, a simple and pure mode of keeping them sound and healthful is by putting a few pieces of charcoal, each the size of an egg, into the pot or saucepan wherein the meat or fish is to be boiled. Among others, an experiment of this kind was tried upon a turbot, which appeared too far gone to be eatable; the cook, as advised, put four pieces of charcoal under the strainer in the fish-kettle; after boiling the proper time, the turbot came to the table perfectly sweet and clean.

*Composition for restoring Scorched Linen.*—Boil to a good consistency, in half a pint of vinegar. two

ounces of fuller's earth, and the juice of two onions. Spread the composition over the whole of the damaged part; and if the scorching is not quite through, and the threads actually consumed, after suffering it to dry, the place will appear full as white and perfect as any other part of the linen.

*To clean Hearthrugs or Carpets.*—Soap every spot of grease or dirt well. Dip a hard brush into boiling water, and rub them well with it. If very dirty, the article must be beat in a tub of warm soap suds, and afterwards rinsed in several clean waters. To the last water put a table spoonful of oil of vitriol, which will brighten the colour.

*Oil of Tartar*, for cleaning pewter, &c.—Take a pound of common pearlash, and a pint of soft water; shake them well together for two or three hours, then let it stand until bright; pour off the clear fluid, which is fit for use.

*Infallible remedy for Weak Eyes.*—Take a small lump of white copperas, about the size of a pea, put it in a small phial that contains about two ounces of water, carry this in the pocket, and occasionally taking out the cork, turn the phial on the finger's end, and thus bathe the eyes. This will positively effect a complete cure in a short time.

*Peppermint Water.*—Take two pounds of peppermint herb, and four gallons of water, from which distil, by means of a gentle fire, one gallon.

*Rose Water.*—Gather red roses when they are full blown and dry; pick off the leaves, and to every peck put one quart of water, then put them into a cold still, and make a slow fire under it; the slower it is distilled the better; bottle it, and cork it in two or three days. Bean flowers may be distilled the same way.

*Pennyroyal Water.*—Gather pennyroyal when full grown, but before it is in blossom, then fill your cold still with it, and put it half full of water; make a moderate fire under it, and distil it off cold; then bottle it, and cork it in two or three days.

*Lavender Water.*—To every twelve pounds of lavender neaps, put one quart of water; put them into a cold still, and make a slow fire under it; distil it off very slow, and put it into a pot till you have distilled it; then put it into bottles, and cork it well.

*Caraway Seed Water.*—Take one pound of bruised caraway seeds, and four gallons of water, from which distil one gallon. This water is used principally as a carminative for infants, and is a good vehicle for giving magnesia and rhubarb to those tender patients.

*Elder Flower Water.*—Take six pounds of elder flowers, and four gallons of water, from which distil one gallon.

*To clean Brass and Copper.*—Take one pound of soft soap, and a sufficient quantity of finely powdered rotten stone to make it into a very stiff paste. A small quantity of this mixture is to be rubbed all over the copper or brass, and polished with a little powdered rotten stone.

*Soda Powders.*—Take one ounce and a half of powdered carbonate of soda, and divide it into twenty powders, wrapped in blue papers; and one ounce of powdered tartaric acid, which also make into twenty portions, wrapped up in white papers. Pour the contents of one blue and one white paper into a dry glass, and pour in half a pint of water, and drink during the effervescence.

*Ginger Beer Powders.*—To each glass of the above, add three grains of powdered Jamaica ginger.

*Remedy for the Gout.*—Great relief is obtained by a large plaster of treacle completely covering the inflamed part, in gout in the feet ; also, by bathing the feet repeatedly in warm soap suds.

*Fine Rouge for Polishing.*—Sift the best Venetian red (in powder) through a fine lawn sieve ; the sifted powder is the rouge used in polishing.

*Chilblain Lotion.*—Take one drachm of sugar of lead, and two of white vitriol, reduce them to a fine powder, and add four ounces of water. Before using this lotion, it is to be well shaken, then rubbed well on the parts affected, before a good fire, with the hand. The best time for application is in the evening. It scarcely ever fails curing the most inveterate chilblains by once or twice using. It is not to be used on broken chilblains.

*For a Cold.*—Take a tea-cupful of linseed, a quarter of a pound of stick liquorice sliced, and a quarter of a pound of sun raisins, put them in two quarts of soft water, and let it simmer over a slow fire till nearly reduced to one quart ; then strain off, and add to it, while it is hot, a quarter of a pound of brown sugar-candy pounded.

*To Whitewash.*—Put some lumps of quick-lime into a bucket of cold water, and stir it about till dissolved and mixed, after which a brush with a large head and long handle, to reach the ceiling of the room, is used to spread it thinly on the walls, &c. When dry it is beautifully white, but its known cheapness has induced the plasterers to substitute a mixture of glue, size, and whiting, for the houses of their opulent customers ; and this, when once used, precludes the employment of lime-washing ever after ; for the latter when laid on whiting becomes yellow. Previous to whitewashing, the walls and ceiling should be well washed with water. Whitewashing makes houses very clean and wholesome.



*A Beautiful Orange Wash for Walls, Livery Stables, &c.*—To three pails of fresh lime wash add two pounds of green copperas, previously dissolved in hot water; mix them well together.

N. B This wash will look black while wet, but, when dry, will become a beautiful yellow or orange colour. It must be well stirred while using.

*To preserve Clothes.*—Clothes, when laid by for a time, acquire an unpleasant odour, which requires a long exposure to the atmospheric air to remove: it will be prevented by laying some recently made charcoal between the folds of the garments; and even when the odour has taken place, the charcoal will absorb it.

*To escape from, or go into, a House on Fire.*—Creep or crawl with your face near the flooring, for although the room be full of smoke to suffocation, yet near the floor the air is pure, and may be breathed with safety. The best escape from upper windows is a knotted rope, but if a leap is unavoidable, then a bed should be thrown out first.

*To purify Water for Drinking.*—Filter river water through a sponge, instead of stone or sand, by which the water is not only rendered clearer, but more wholesome; for sand is insensibly dissolved in the water. Powder of charcoal should be added to the sponge when the water is fetid.

*To remove Warts.*—Dip nitrate of silver (lunar caustic) in a little water, and rub it over the warts; by so doing, several times, they will soon be gone.

*To cure Ringworm.*—The head must be well cleansed morning and evening with soap and water, and then washed with lime-water from the gas-works.

*To preserve Eggs*—Apply with a brush a solution of gum-arabic to the shells, or immerse the eggs therein, let them dry, and afterwards pack them in dry charcoal dust. This prevents their being affected by any alterations of temperature.

*A substitute for Milk and Cream.*—Beat up the whole of a fresh egg in a basin, and then pour boiling tea over it gradually, to prevent its curdling. It is difficult, from the taste, to distinguish the composition from rich cream.

*To remove Flies from Rooms.*—Take half a tea-spoonful of black pepper, in powder, one tea-spoonful of brown sugar, and one table-spoonful of cream; mix them well together, and place them in the room, on a plate, where the flies are troublesome, and they will soon disappear.

*Useful Knife-Board.*—A common knife-board, covered with thick buff leather, on which are put emery, one part, crocus martis, three parts, in very fine powder, mixed into a thick paste with a little lard or sweet oil, and spread on the leather to the thickness of a shilling, gives a far superior edge and polish to knives; and will not wear the knife near so much as the common method of using brick-dust on a board.

*To loosen the glass Stoppers of Smelling Bottles and Decanters.*—With a feather rub a drop or two of olive oil round the stopper, close to the mouth of the bottle or decanter, which must be then placed before the fire, at the distance of a foot or eighteen inches; in which position the heat will cause the oil to spread downward between the stopper and the neck. When the bottle or decanter has grown warm, gently strike the stopper on one side, and on the other, with any light wooden instrument; then try it with the hand. If it will not yet move, place it again before the fire, adding, if you choose, another drop of oil. After a while strike again as before; and by persevering in this process, however tightly the stopper may be fastened in, you will at length succeed in loosening it.

*Improved method of salting Butter and Meat.*—Best common salt two parts, saltpetre one part, sugar one part; beat them up together, so that they may be completely blended. To every sixteen ounces of butter add one ounce of the composition; mix it well in the mass, and close it up for use. It should not be used for a month, that it may be thoroughly incorporated. Butter, thus cured, has been kept for three years perfectly sweet. Keep the air from it, or it spoils. Cover it with an oiled paper, and a board on that.

To cure meat, add one ounce of the above composition to every sixteen ounces of meat. It must be *very well rubbed into the meat*. You cannot have it too finely powdered, nor too well rubbed into the meat.

*Essence of Cloves, for Apple pies, puddings, &c.*—Take of oil of cloves, one drachm, and spirits of wine, one ounce. Mix them well. A few drops to a fruit pie is much better, and cheaper, than cloves.

*To fatten Poultry.*—Poultry should be fattened in coops, and kept very clean. They should be furnished with gravel, but with no water. Their only food, barley-meal, mixed so thin with water as to serve them for drink. Their thirst makes them eat more than they would, in order to extract the water that is among the food. This should not be put in troughs, but laid upon a board, which should be clean washed every time fresh food is put upon it. It is foul and heated water which is the sole cause of the pip.

*To destroy Bugs.*—Take of the highest rectified spirits of wine, (viz. lamp spirits) that will burn all away dry, and leave not the least moisture behind, half a pint: new distilled oil, or spirits, of turpentine, half a pint; mix them together and break into

it, in small bits, half an ounce of camphor, which will dissolve in a few minutes; shake them well together, and with a sponge or brush, dipped in some of it, wet very well the bed, or furniture, wherein these vermin harbour and breed, and it will infallibly kill and destroy both them and their nits, although they swarm ever so much. But then the bed and furniture must be well and thoroughly wet with it (the dust upon them being first brushed and shook off,) by which means it will neither stain, soil, or in the least hurt the finest silk or damask bed that is. The quantity here ordered of this curious neat white mixture, which costs about a shilling, will rid any one bed whatever, though it swarms with bugs. Do but touch a live bug with a drop of it, and you will find it die immediately; if any should happen to appear after once using, it will only be for the want of well wetting the lacing, &c. of the bed, or the foldings of the linings or curtains near the rings, or the joints, or holes in or about the bed or head-board wherein the bugs or nits nestle and breed, and their being well wet altogether again with more of the same mixture, which dries in as fast as you use it, pouring some of it into the joints or holes where the sponge or brush cannot reach, will never fail absolutely to destroy them all. Some beds, that have much wood, can hardly be thoroughly cleaned without being first taken down; but others that can be drawn out, or that you can get well behind to be done as it should be, may.

*Note.*—The smell this mixture occasions will be gone in two or three days, which is yet very wholesome, and to many people agreeable. You must remember always to shake the liquor together very well whenever you use it, which must be in daylight, not by candlelight, lest the subtlety of the mixture should catch the flame as you are using it, and occasion damage.

*To bottle Porter, Ale, &c.*—In the first place, the bottles should be clean, sweet, and dry, the corks

sound and good, and the porter or ale fine. When the bottles are filled, if for home consumption, they should not be corked till the day following; and if for exportation to a hot climate, they must stand three days or more, (if the liquor is new)—it should be well corked and wired, but for a private family they may do without wiring, only they should be well packed in sawdust, and stand upright. But if some ripe are wanted, keep a few packed on their sides, so that the liquor may touch the corks—and this will soon ripen, and make it fit for drinking.

*Parchment Glue.*—Take one pound of parchment, and boil it in six quarts of water till the quantity be reduced to one, then strain off the dregs, and boil it again till it be of the consistence of glue. —The same may be done with glovers' cuttings of leather, which make a colourless glue, if not burnt in the evaporation of the water.

*To Wash Fine Lace or Linen.*—Take a gallon of furze blossoms and burn them to ashes, then boil them in six quarts of soft water; this, when fine, use in washing with the suds, as occasion requires, and the linen, &c. will not only be exceedingly white, but it is done with half the soap, and little trouble.

*To clean Paper Hangings.*—Cut into eight half quarters a stale quartern loaf; with one of these pieces, after having blown off all the dust from the paper to be cleaned by means of a good pair of bellows, begin at the top of the room, holding the crust in the hand, and wiping lightly downward with the crumb, about half a yard at each stroke, till the upper part of the hangings is completely cleaned all round: then go again round with the like sweeping stroke downward, always commencing each successive course a little higher than the upper stroke had extended, till the bottom be finished. This

operation, if carefully performed, will frequently make very old paper look almost equal to new. Great caution must be used not by any means to rub the paper hard, nor to attempt cleaning it the cross or horizontal way. The dirty part of the bread too must be each time cut away, and the pieces renewed as soon as necessary.

*To make an excellent Smelling Bottle.*—Take an equal quantity of sal-ammoniac and unslacked lime, pound them separate, then mix and put them in a bottle to smell to. Before you put in the above, drop two or three drops of the essence of bergamot into the bottle, then cork it close. A drop or two of ether, added to the same, will greatly improve it.

*Furniture Paste*, which gives a polish equal to French Polish.—Take two ounces of spirits of turpentine, and half an ounce of bruised alkanet root; macerate for two or three hours, until the turpentine becomes a dark red colour. Then melt in a pipkin four ounces of yellow wax, over a very slow fire; remove the wax from the fire, and strain the turpentine through a linen cloth into it, stirring them until cold, when it is fit for use. Polish with flannel.

*To make Hard Pomatum.*—Blanch the hog's lard in water for three days; then add mutton suet in proportion, and boil them together with a little white wax; scent it with essence of lemon, or lavender, then make round paper cases, and when cold turn down the other end, and keep it for use.—For *Soft Pomatum*, omit the white wax.

*To increase the Growth of Hair.*—Hartshorn beat small, and mixed with oil, being rubbed upon the head of persons who have lost their hair, will cause it to grow again as at first.

*To turn Red Hair Black.*—Take a pint of the liquor of pickled herrings, half a pound of lamp-black, and two ounces of the rust of iron. Mix and boil them for twenty minutes, then strain and rub the liquor well into the roots of the hair.

*To make one Gallon of Black Writing Ink.*—Into a glazed stone jar or pitcher put one pound of Aleppo galls, slightly bruised; then add one gallon of rain water, nearly of a boiling heat; let these stand together for fourteen days upon the kitchen hearth, or moderately warm; after that time add four ounces of green copperas or sulphate of iron, four ounces of logwood chips or shavings, one ounce of alum, one ounce of sugar-candy, and four ounces of gum-arabic or senegal. Let the whole remain ten or twelve days longer in a moderate heat, the mouth of the vessel slightly covered with paper. Stir the ingredients well with a stick twice a day during the whole time; then strain off the ink through linen or flannel, bottle it, pour a little brandy on the top of the ink in each bottle, then cork them well, and keep them for use in a place of temperate heat.

This ink may be depended upon as excellent, durable, and preserving the writing all a deep black.

N. B.—The best galls for the purpose are those which are dark coloured, heavy, and free from grub holes.

*To make cheap beautiful Green Paint.*—The cost of this paint is less than one-fourth of oil colour, and the beauty far superior. Take four pounds of Roman vitriol, and pour on it a tea-kettle full of boiling water; when dissolved, add two pounds of pearl-ash, and stir the mixture well with a stick until the effervescence ceases; then add a quarter of a pound of pulverized yellow arsenic, and stir the whole together. Lay it on with a paint brush, and if the wall has not been painted before, two, or even three coats, will be requisite. To paint a common sized room with this colour, will not cost more than five shillings. If a pea-green is required put in less; and if an apple green more, of the yellow arsenic.

*To revive a dull Fire.*—Powdered nitre strowed on the fire, is the best bellows that can be used.

*To preserve Milk.*—Provide bottles, which must be perfectly clean, sweet, and dry; draw the milk from the cow into the bottles, and as they are filled, immediately cork them well up, and fasten the corks with pack-thread or wire. Then spread a little straw on the bottom of a boiler, on which place the bottles with straw between them, until the boiler contains a sufficient quantity. Fill it up with cold water; heat the water, and as soon as it begins to boil, draw the fire, and let the whole gradually cool. When quite cold, take out the bottles, and pack them with straw or saw-dust in hampers, and stow them in the coolest part of the house or ship. Milk preserved in this manner, although eighteen months in the bottles, will be as sweet as when first milked from the cow.

*To destroy Fleas on Dogs.*—Rub the animal, when out of the house, with the common Scotch snuff, except the nose and eyes. Clear lime-water destroys the whitish flea-worm without injuring the skin or hair. Oil of turpentine will likewise do so; but if there be any manginess, or the skin be broken, it will give the animal much pain.

*Remedies against Fleas.*—Fumigation with brimstone; or the fresh leaves of pennyroyal sewed in a bag, and laid in the bed, will have the desired effect.

*Method of causing Children to cut their Teeth easily.*—Feed them with an ivory spoon and boat, to be made thick, round, and smooth at the edges, ivory being of the same hardness and texture as the jaws and tender teeth, the gums are not hurt or injured, but when they are thus pressed facilitate the teeth in their progress; whereas the silver implements being of a hard texture, and the edges made thin, bruise and wound the gums, and make a hard seam, so that the teeth cannot make their way



direct, and if they do cut, come irregularly ; so that the operation of lancing is frequently absolutely necessary, which of course must prejudice the teeth, as some are exposed before the time they are fit to be cut.

By this method fevers, convulsions, &c. owing to the teeth being not able to find their way through the hard seam, may be prevented. It must be observed, that children cry much when feeding, as if ill, or disgusted with their food, whereas it is frequently owing to quite the contrary ; for being hungry. and over eager to take their food, they press hard, through eagerness, on the boat and spoon, which being sharp, bruises and cuts the gums, and consequently causes much pain, which by the ivory implements will be prevented. Those who cannot afford ivory may have horn or wood, or even pewter is greatly preferable to silver, provided the edges are made thick, round, and smooth. The wooden sort, unless they are kept very sweet and clean, on that very account, are the least eligible, and should be made, however, of box, or such hard and close textured wood as is the least liable to be tainted by the milky food.

*To cure the Sting of a Wasp or Bee.*—To the part affected apply oil of tartar, or solution of potash, and it will give instant ease, as will also well bruised mallows.

*To change Hair to a deep Brown.*—A solution of the silver caustic in water is the foundation of all the nostrums for this purpose. It must be well diluted before use.

*To try the purity of Spirits.*—See if the liquor will burn away without leaving any moisture behind. As spirit is much lighter than water, place a hollow ivory ball in it ; the deeper the ball sinks, the lighter the liquor. and consequently the more spirituous.

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